

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 436 009

CS 216 947

AUTHOR Lu, Mei-Yu
TITLE Online Resources for K-12 Teachers: Children's and Adolescent Literature. ERIC Digest D149.
INSTITUTION ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English, and Communication, Bloomington, IN.
SPONS AGENCY Office of Educational Research and Improvement (ED), Washington, DC.
REPORT NO EDO-CS-99-10
PUB DATE 1999-12-00
NOTE 4p.
CONTRACT ED-99-CO-0028
AVAILABLE FROM ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English, and Communication, Indiana University, 2805 E. 10th Street, Suite 150, Bloomington, IN 47408-2698; Web site: <http://www.indiana.edu/~eric_rec>.
PUB TYPE ERIC Publications (071) -- ERIC Digests in Full Text (073)
EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Adolescent Literature; *Childrens Literature; Elementary Secondary Education; *Internet; Language Arts; Lesson Plans; Professional Development
IDENTIFIERS ERIC Digests

ABSTRACT

This Digest aims to provide useful Internet resources for K-12 teachers who would like to integrate children's and adolescent literature into their curriculum. Preparation of this Digest began with a retrospective review of literature-related questions received over the last two years by the Reference staff of the ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English, and Communication. Four categories of frequently posed requests were then identified: (1) literature-based lesson plans; (2) aids to materials selection; (3) online publications for and by K-12 students; and (4) professional development resources. It then presents annotations of 12 Internet sites for K-12 language educators. (RS)

Online Resources for K-12 Teachers: Children's and
Adolescent Literature. ERIC Digest.

by Mei-Yu Lu

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION
CENTER (ERIC)

- ☐ This document has been reproduced as
received from the person or organization
originating it.
- ☐ Minor changes have been made to
improve reproduction quality.

- Points of view or opinions stated in this
document do not necessarily represent
official OERI position or policy.



Digest

Clearinghouse on Reading, English, and Communication

EDO-CS-99-10

Indiana University
2805 E 10th St., Suite 150

D149

Bloomington, IN 47408-2698
(812) 855-5847, (800) 759-4723

Online Resources for K-12 Teachers: Children's and Adolescent Literature

by Mei-Yu Lu

With the increasing popularity of the Internet, teachers now are actively seeking online resources that will support the preparation of their lessons. This Digest aims to provide useful Internet resources for K-12 teachers who would like to integrate children's and adolescent literature into their curriculum. Preparation of this Digest began with a retrospective review of literature-related questions received over the last two years by the Reference staff of the ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English, and Communication. Four categories of frequently posed requests were then identified: (1) literature-based lesson plans, (2) aids to materials selection, (3) online publications for and by K-12 students, and (4) professional development resources. Finally, using Abdullah's (1998) guides for website evaluation, we selected the following websites for each of these categories.

1. Literature-based Lesson Plans

In a survey entitled "Hot Spots: Picks of Language Arts Websites" (Lu & Abdullah, 1999), respondents commented that the best websites were characterized by a high level of immediate applicability. Teachers who responded to the survey indicated that the most useful sites were those providing a wide array of practical teaching ideas. These are some children's and adolescent literature websites recommended for language educators.

Cyberguides: Teachers Guides and Student Activities

<http://www.sdcoe.k12.ca.us/score/cyberguide.html>

Developed as part of the SCORE (Schools of California Online Resources for Education) Language Arts Project, Cyberguides are web-delivered units of instruction centered on core works of literature. These guides are arranged by broad grade levels (K-3, 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12), and each Cyberguide contains background information of a particular title, learning activities, related resources, and a rubric based on California Language Arts Content Standards.

The Doucette Index: K-12 Literature-based Teaching Ideas

<http://www.educ.ucalgary.ca/litindex/>

The Doucette Index is a major section in the Children's Literature Web Guide, one of the major children's and adolescent literature

websites. This site hosts a searchable database of children's and young adult books. Upon typing in the title of a book or an author's name, the database displays a list of references, containing both online and book resources, for teaching a particular work by the selected author.

Index to Internet Sites: Children's and Young Adult's Authors and Illustrators

<http://falcon.jmu.edu/~ramseyil/biochildhome.htm>

A project of the Internet School Library Media Center at James Madison University, this webpage is a meta-site designed to foster easy access to curriculum related sites. It collects links to biographical information, lesson plans, and other information that focus on specific children's and young adult authors/illustrators. In addition, this site also features the following resources: (1) bibliographies of children's authors/illustrators, (2) print biographies and autobiographies, (3) author birthdays, and (4) author/illustrator public appearance schedules.

Maine Samplers

<http://www.umcs.maine.edu/~orono/collaborative/collaborative.html>

Maine Samplers provide a list of detailed guides to literature-based activities. These activities are a cooperative project written by teachers and librarians based on the Maine Student Book Awards. These guides provide an assortment of activities related to children's and young adult literature. They often include activities to be conducted on the Internet.

2. Aids to Materials Selection

Thousands of trade books and reading materials targeted at children and young adults are published each year. Teachers are thus challenged by how and what to choose for their classroom use. In this section, we identify some sites containing criteria for materials selection and booklists suitable for students of various ages and interests.

Canadian Review of Materials

<http://www.umanitoba.ca/cm/index.html>

This site is produced by the Manitoba Library Association. Although Canadian based, many titles reviewed in this site are also available in the U.S. This site features the

Mei-Yu Lu is a Reference Specialist at the ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English, and Communication. She is also a graduate student at Indiana University.

following three major sections: (1) profiles of children's authors/illustrators, (2) reviews of currently published children's and young adult books, and (3) information on recently released multi-media, including audiobooks, videotapes, and CD-ROMs.

Children's Literature/Young Adult Literature Book Review Source for K-12

<http://falcon.jmu.edu/~ramseyil/childbookreviews.htm>

From James Madison University, this site covers a variety of book review sources focusing on children's and adolescent literature. Four types of book review resources are represented: (1) professional periodicals that review children's and young adult books, (2) online book review sources by one or a group of reviewers, (3) book reviews by children and young adults, and (4) books reviewed by commercial sources.

Reviewed Children's Books

<http://www.carolhurst.com/titles/allreviewed.html>

This site, a section from Carol Hurst's Children's Literature Site, provides reviews of booklists for children Pre-K to grade 9. Readers can find reviewed books grouped by title, author, type of book, and grade level. Some of the titles also include teaching ideas, related books, and resources in addition to the reviews.

3. Online Publications for and by K-12 Students

Research has shown that publishing students' work helps them develop positive attitudes toward writing (Balcer, 1990), promotes self-esteem (Novek, 1992), and encourages better quality work (Nodsle, 1990; Novek, 1992; Simic, 1993). Here, we suggest three websites that both publish and offer literacy projects to K-12 students.

Kids' Space

<http://www.kids-space.org/>

Kids' Space is a personal page at Interport Communications, with participants from the U.S., U.K., Canada, Australia, Hong Kong, and Japan. This site exists to foster literacy, artistic expression, and cross-cultural understanding among the world's children. It includes activities for art, literacy, music, and computer skills.

MidLink Magazine: The Digital Magazine for Kids By Kids from 8 to 18

<http://longwood.cs.ucf.edu/80/~MidLink/>

Intended for children aged 8 to 18, this online magazine is sponsored by SAS inSchool, North Carolina State University, and the University of Central Florida. Four issues are published each year, and each issue includes literature-based projects for students of different grades and interests, information on innovative schools from around the world, and a teacher resource room with various lesson plans.

Reading Zone at the Internet Youth Library Youth Division

http://www.ipl.org/cgi-bin/youth/youth_out.pl?sub=rzn2000

The Internet Library is an educational initiative by the School of Information at the University of Michigan. This site includes literature of various genres for children of different ages and interests. It also provides a wide array of online literacy activities, information regarding authors/illustrators, and resources for educators and parents.

4. Professional Development Resources

In this section, we highlight websites that inform educators of issues and news in the field of children's and adolescent literature, and that also provide a variety of resources for teachers to advance their skills.

The Children's Literature Web Guide

<http://www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~dkbrown/new.html>

The Children's Literature Web Guide is the most current and comprehensive resource on children's and adolescent literature in education. This site assembles and categorizes the rapidly growing Internet resources related to books for children and young adults. Its special features include a searchable lesson plan database, lists of book awards and quality literature for youth, issues and news regarding children's and young adult literature, and a discussion board.

Children's Literature Association

<http://ebbs.english.vt.edu/chla/>

This website supports serious scholarship and research in children's literature among professionals. To encourage high standards of criticism in children's literature, the Children's Literature Association offers several awards, fellowships, and scholarships to assist members in research. It also promotes several Children's and Young Adult Literature Study Programs. This association has several publications, including the ChLA Quarterly and Children's Literature Journal, which feature articles on authors, illustrators, and periods of children's literature, as well as interpretive essays and book reviews.

References

- Abdullah, M. H. (1998). *Guidelines for evaluating websites*. ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English, and Communication. [ED436440]
- Balcer, B. T. (1990). Give your students a reason to write: Help them get published. *Learning*, 19(4), 52-55. [EJ425086]
- Lu, M.-Y. & Abdullah, M. H. (1999). *Hot spots: Picks of language arts websites*. San Diego, CA: Paper presented at the 44th Annual Meeting of the International Reading Association.
- Nodsle, C. (1990). Every student an author. *Perspectives in Education and Deafness*, 9(2), 21. [EJ424447]
- Novek, E. M. (1992). *Newsmaking, a tool for self-determination: Urban high school students publish a community newspaper*. Paper presented at the 75th Annual Meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Montreal, Quebec, Canada. [ED349578]
- Simic, M. (1993). *Publishing children's writing*. Bloomington, IN: ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English, and Communication. [ED363884]

Digest #149 is EDO-CS-99-10 and was published in December 1999 by the ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English and Communication, 2805 E 10th Street, Bloomington, IN 47408-2698, Telephone (812) 855-5847 or (800) 759-4723. ERIC Digests are in the public domain and may be freely reproduced. Additional copies may be ordered by contacting the ERIC Document Reproduction Service at (800) 443-3742.

This project has been funded at least in part with Federal funds from the U.S. Department of Education under contract number ED-99-CO-0028. The content of this publication does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Department of Education nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.